

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Responsive to the final Office Action dated February 3, 2006, Attorney for the Assignee submits the following Response to Final Office Action, and a Request for Continued Examination (RCE). The Response to Final Office Action follows the filing of a Notice of Appeal on May 3, 2006, an Appeal Brief filed on July 16, 2007, an amended Appeal Brief filed on September 7, 2007, and the Notification of Non-Compliant Appeal Brief mailed by the Patent Office on January 21, 2009. In light of the accompanying amendments and remarks, Attorney for the Assignee respectfully asserts that all of the claims of the patent application are patentable, and that the application be allowed.

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 35 of this paper.

**Conclusion** begins on page 42 of this paper.